

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6238

S E C R E T ATHENS 8481

EXDIS

DEPT REPEAT OTHER ADDRESSEES AS DESIRED

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PLOS GR TU US

SUBJECT: GREEK OFFICIALS DISTURBED AT REPORTED US PRO-TURK
ACTIVITIES

REF: STATE 202851

1. MOLYVIATIS CALLED ME TO SAY THAT FOREIGN MINISTER
BITSIOS TELEPHONED PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS LAST NIGHT
AND, AMONG OTHER THINGS, REPORTED THAT THE USG
MIGHT NOT SUPPORT THE "EUROPEAN DRAFT RESOLUTION" BEFORE
THE SECURITY COUNCIL. ACCORDING TO MOLYVIATIS, XITSION
HAD TALKED BY TELEPHONE WITH UNDER SECRETARY HABIB AND
BASED HIS REPORT TO CARAMANLIS ON THAT CONVERSATION AND
ON REPORTED "LOBBYING" BY US OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK.
MOLYVIATIS SAID THAT HE HOPED BITSIOS' CONCERNS WERE UN-
WARRANTED AND ASKED IF I HAD ANY RECENT INFORMATION ON
DEVELOPMENTS IN NEW YORK OR WHAT THE USG POSITION WAS.
IN ACCORDANCE REFTEL I TOLD MOLYVIATIS THAT I WAS NOT
COMPLETELY UP TO DATE AND THAT I WAS SURE THE SECRETARY
AND OTHER US OFFICIALS WERE IN THE CLOSEST TOUCH WITH
BITSIOS AND GREEK OFFICIALS IN TRYING TO WORK OUT THE
BEST POSSIBLE OUTCOME FOR THE MATTER. I DID NOT DISCUSS
THE ISSUES WITH HIM NOR REVEAL THE CONTENT OF ANY OF THE
DISCUSSIONS SUMMARIZED IN REFTEL, WHICH I VERY MUCH
APPRECIATED.

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2. AT MIDDAY TODAY I ALSO ATTENDED A SMALL PRIVATE CEREMONY

WITH PRESIDENT TSATSOS, RELATED TO OUR BICENTENNIAL. TSATSOS TOOK ME ASIDE AND SAID ON A PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL BASIS THAT "REPORTS" WERE REACHING CARAMANLIS AND TOP GREEK GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THAT THE USG WAS "BEHIND THE SCENES" OPPOSING THE BRITISH-FRENCH-ITALIAN DRAFT RESOLUTION AND "LOBBYING" FOR THE TURKISH POSITION. I TOLD PRESIDENT TSATSOS THAT HE SHOULD NEVER DOUBT THE FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING FOR GREECE OF HIGHEST US OFFICIALS AND THAT ALTHOUGH I WAS NOT PRIVY TO ALL THAT WAS GOING ON IN THE US I HAD NO DOUBT THAT AMERICAN OFFICIALS WOULD BE DOING EVERYTHING THEY COULD TO TRY AND EASE THE TENSE SITUATION IN THE AEGEAN AND CONTRIBUTE TO A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF GREEK-TURKISH PROBLEMS. TSATSOS INDICATED HE WAS NOT SO SURE AND SEEMED TO POSSESS OTHER INFORMATION ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH HE DID NOT WANT TO SHARE WITH ME. HE SAID THAT I WOULD FIND OUT IN DUE COURSE WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT BUT THAT AT THE MOMENT HE WAS EXTREMELY WORRIED ABOUT THE DANGEROUS SITUATION IN THE AEGEAN -- AND FOR THE FUTURE OF US-GREEK RELATIONS. KUBISCH

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